

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 ISO-00 DODE-00  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 H-01 OIC-02 OMB-01  
/078 W

-----060136 101414Z /72

O 101350Z MAY 78  
FM USMISSION USNATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1411  
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USDEL MBFR VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 04646

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: NATO, PARM, UR  
SUBJECT: SOVIET REACTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S ERW DECISION

1. AT MAY 9 POLADS MEETING, ITALIAN REP REPORTED THAT ON APRIL 28 SOVIET MINISTER COUNSELOR URANOV MADE DEMARCHE TO MFA DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS, BOTTAI. STRESSING THAT HE WAS ACTING UNDER EXPLICIT INSTRUCTIONS, URANOV CALLED ATTENTION TO POINTS CONCERNING DISARMAMENT IN BREZHNEV'S KOMSOMOL SPEECH. IN PARTICULAR, HE STRESSED THAT THE TONE OF BREZHNEV'S REMARKS ON PRESIDENT CARTER'S DECISION TO SUSPEND THE PRODUCTION OF ERW WAS FAR DIFFERENT FROM THE PREVIOUS, HARD POSITIONS WHICH URANOV ATTRIBUTED TO THE "SOVIET PRESS". IN FACT, MOSCOW VIEWED PRESIDENT CARTER'S DECISION FROM A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE VIEWPOINT, AND CONSIDERED IT TO BE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROCESS OF DETENTE AND TO DISARMAMENT, EVEN IF THE USSR CONTINUES TO FORMALLY PROPOSE A MUTUAL PLEDGE TO RENOUNCE PRODUCTION OF ERW.  
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2. URANOV ALSO POINTED OUT THAT ALL THE POINTS CONCERNING DISARMAMENT IN THE BREZHNEV SPEECH WERE OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO HIS GOVERNMENT, AND ASKED ITALY TO GIVE TO THEM "CAREFUL CONSIDERATION". HE ADDED THAT THE NEW WESTERN PROPOSALS AT THE MBFR TALKS IN VIENNA WERE CONSIDERED BY MOSCOW AS A "NOTICEABLE STEP FORWARD IN

THE RIGHT DIRECTION".

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3. IN PROVIDING ACCOUNT OF URANOV'S DEMARCHE, ITALIAN  
POLAD ASKED IF SOVIETS HAD MADE SIMILAR PRESENTATIONS IN  
OTHER ALLIED CAPITALS.

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4. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION  
ON SOVIET COMMENTS REGARDING BREZHNEV'S SPEECH THAT WOULD  
BE APPROPRIATE FOR SHARING WITH POLADS. BENNETT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISARMAMENT, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, SPEECHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978USNATO04646  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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